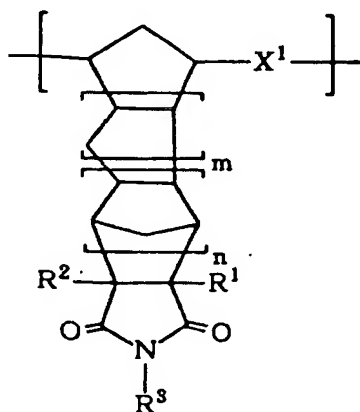


IN THE CLAIMS

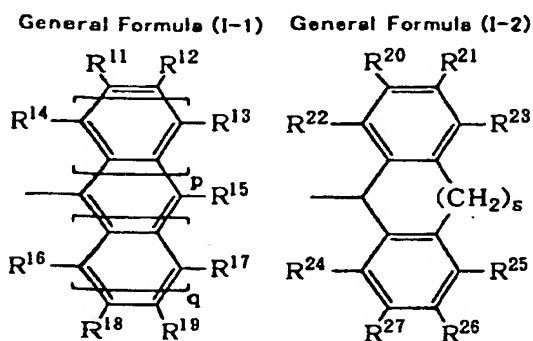
Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A ring-opened polynorbornene comprising a structural unit (I) represented by the following general formula (I):

General formula (I)



wherein in the general formula (I), ~~m and n are, independently of each other, an integer of 0 to 2~~ m is 0, n is 1, X¹ means an ethylene group, R¹ and R² denote, independently of each other, a hydrogen atom or a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, and R³ represents a group represented by the following general formula (I-1) or a group represented by the following general formula (I-2):

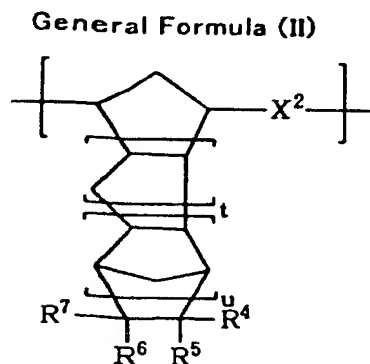


wherein in the general formulae (I-1) and (I-2), R^{11} to R^{27} denote, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which may have a linkage containing or not containing oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen and/or silicon atom(s); or a polar group, p and q in the general formula (I-1) are individually 0 or a positive integer, with the proviso that when both p and q are 0, R^{12} and R^{15} , or R^{19} and R^{15} may be bonded to each other to form a carbon ring or heterocyclic ring, and the carbon ring or heterocyclic ring may be either a monocyclic structure or a polycyclic structure, and s in the general formula (I-2) is 0 or an integer of 1 or greater.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, which comprises a structural unit (II) represented by the following general formula $[(II).]$

(II)

~~[Chemical formula 3]~~



wherein in the general formula (II), t and u are, independently of each other, 0 or a positive integer, X^2 means an ethylene or vinylene group, R^4 to R^7 denote, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which may have a linkage containing or not containing oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen and/or silicon atom(s); or a polar group, with the proviso that R^4 and

R^5 , or R^6 and R^7 may be united with each other to form a divalent hydrocarbon group, R^4 or R^5 , and R^6 or R^7 may be bonded to each other to form a carbon ring or heterocyclic ring, and the carbon ring or heterocyclic ring may be either a monocyclic structure or a polycyclic structure.

Claim 3 (Original): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 2, wherein the proportion of the structural unit (II) is at most 98 mol% based on the whole structural unit.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and at least one of R^{11} and R^{18} is another substituent group than hydrogen.

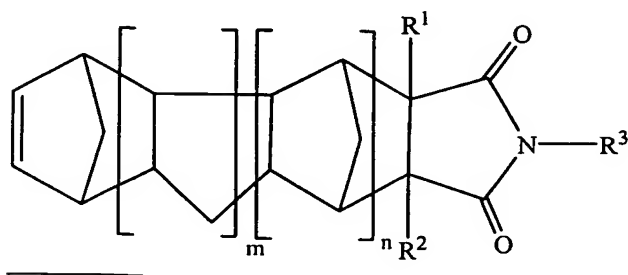
Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, at least one of R^{11} and R^{18} has another substituent group than hydrogen, and at least one of R^{12} , R^{15} and R^{19} is another substituent group than hydrogen.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The ring-opened polynorbornene according to claim 1, which has the structural unit (I), in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and both R^{11} and R^{18} are other substituent groups than hydrogen.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a hydrogenated ring-opened polynorbornene of claim 1, which comprises:

a step of ring-opening reaction of a monomer having a ~~structural~~ structural unit $[(I)]$ represented by the general formula $[(I)]$ (Im)

General Formula (Im)

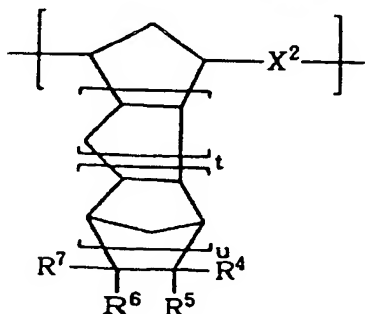


and

a step of hydrogenation of the product of the former step ~~wherein the hydrogenation rate of the vinylene groups is at least 90%.~~

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The ~~ring-opened polynorbornene~~ process according to claim 9, wherein the ring-opened polynorbornene ~~which~~ comprises a structural unit (II) represented by the following general formula (II)

General Formula (II)



wherein in the general formula (II), t and u are, independently of each other, 0 or a positive integer, X^2 means an ethylene or vinylene group, R^4 to R^7 denote, independently of

group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, which may have a linkage containing or not containing oxygen, sulfur, nitrogen and/or silicon atom(s); or a polar group, with the proviso that R⁴ and R⁵, or R⁶ and R⁷ may be united with each other to form a divalent hydrocarbon group, R⁴ or R⁵, and R⁶ or R⁷ may be bonded to each other to form a carbon ring or heterocyclic ring, and the carbon ring or heterocyclic ring may be either a monocyclic structure or a polycyclic structure.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The ~~ring-opened polynorbornene~~ process according to claim 10, wherein the proportion of the structural unit (II) is at most 98 mol% based on the whole structural unit.

Claims 12-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The ~~ring-opened polynorbornene~~ process according to claim 9, ~~which has the structural unit (I)~~, in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and at least one of R¹¹ and R¹⁸ is another substituent group than hydrogen.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The ~~ring-opened polynorbornene~~ process according to claim 9, ~~which has the structural unit (I)~~, in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, at least one of R¹¹ and R¹⁸ has another substituent group than hydrogen, and at least one of R¹², R¹⁵ and R¹⁹ is another substituent group than hydrogen.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The ~~ring-opened polynorbornene~~ process according to claim 9, ~~which has the structural unit (I)~~, in which in the general formula (I-1), p is 0, q is 0, and both R¹¹ and R¹⁸ are other substituent groups than hydrogen.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claim 5 therein; Claims 4, 5, 12 and 13 have been canceled. Claim 9 has been amended to recite as the monomer, that of formula (Im), as supported in the specification at page 14, line 10ff; to correct a typographical error; and by deleting “wherein the hydrogenation rate of the vinylene groups is at least 90%.” Finally, Claims 10, 11 and 14-16 have been amended into process claims.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-3, 6-11 and 14-16 are now pending in the application.